

37

Yi 2

7399

F 2

on the *Mythologie* Plate of
Greece.

✓ You will find a description of
it by Dr Willick as occurring in the
French Army that besieged Brema-
-briest in the year 1799. I have
seen a few cases of it, and have taken
the liberty of calling it a "dry Opthal-
-mia" from its ~~attended~~ not being
attended with an effusion of red blood,
or an increased discharge of water
from the eyes. It is accompanied
with much more pain, than the
Common Opthalmia.

1
-
-
in
-
-
)

J
m
Co
the
of
no
of
=2
14
24
b
t
D
v
s
b

1
The Ophthalmic state of fever.

I include in this disease, morbid excitement in the eyes, whether it affect their coats, their membranes, their lids, or their whole substance. The worst cases of this disease ~~but~~ are those in which no obvious change appears in the color of the eyes. Here morbid excitement transcends inflammation. ~~The former is~~ ^{it} rarely occurs, in consequence of the facility with which red blood passes into the ~~the~~ venous vessels of the eyes. This disease in its ordinary state is ~~not~~ ^{generally} attended with more or less activity in the pulse, and sometimes with a pain in the head, & occasionally with delirium.

II Causes which act indirectly upon the
eyes. and

III Causes which act both directly and
indirectly upon them.

V Salt dust, and small insects D^r Leg.
= Lovers says sometimes induce it in
Minerva.

2 as act directly upon the eyes.
are I suppose ~~directly~~
Its causes ~~are~~ ~~are~~ irritants acting
The causes which act directly are
mechanically & chemically upon the

~~The~~ The mechanical irritants are
or lesions of
strokes upon the eye, ~~injection~~
from sand - dust - the fine particles of
clam & oyster shells. The last is a fre-
quent cause of this disease at Surinam,
where the streets are paved with those
calcareous matters. The pollen of plants.
It is often induced by this cause in
new settlements in the United States.
To this head of causes belong except in
the use of the eyes in reading, writing,
sewing, and viewing small objects thro
a magnifying glass. Reading ~~is~~ ^{is most}
harmful when practised in the open
air, and in a clear sky - It is still more
so when practised in riding in a

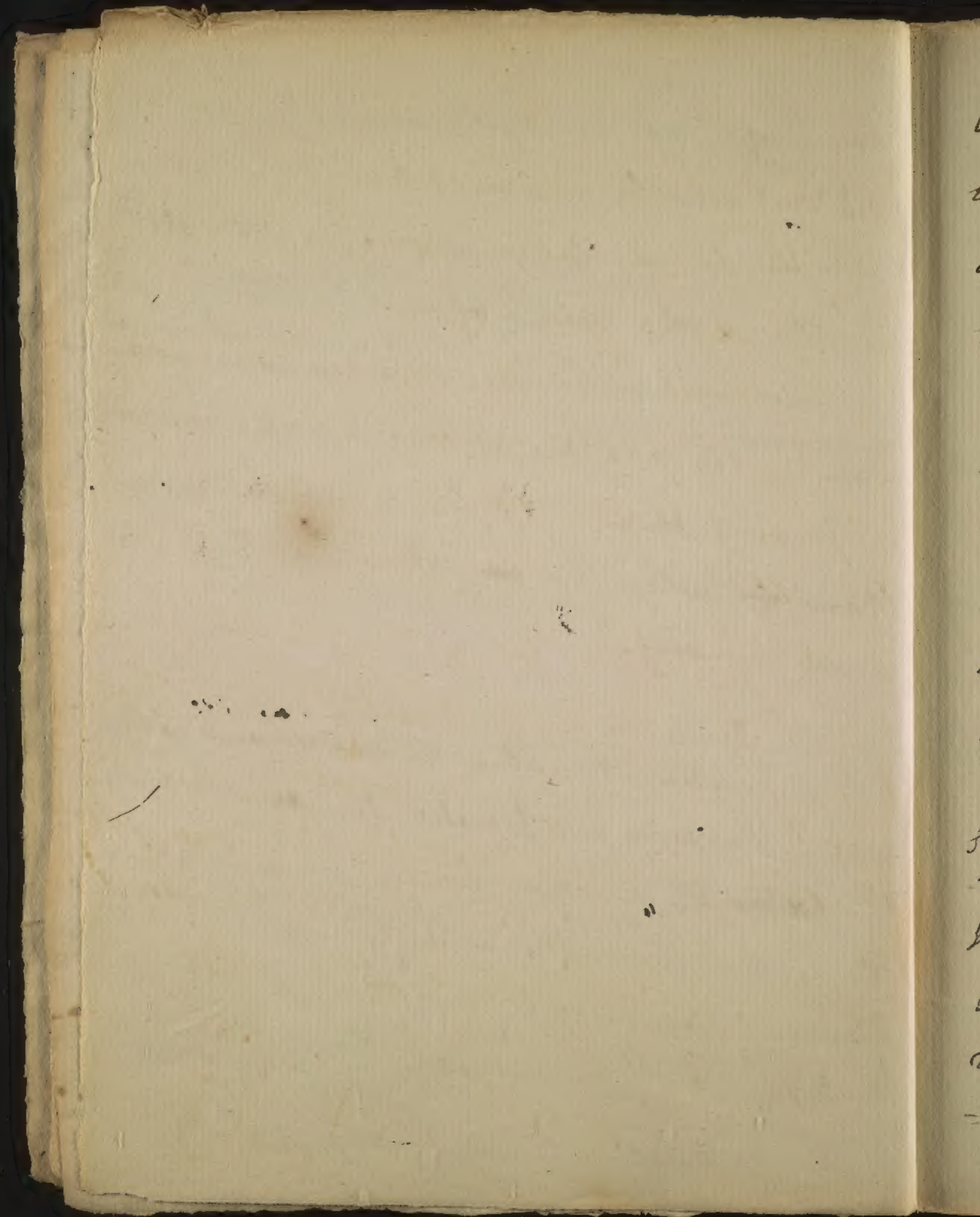
[Faint, illegible handwriting on the main page]

Co
- to
m
he
the
to
us
by
the
gr

C
w
th
th
Dr
p
h

Carriage, or on horseback. The celebra-
 -tion was ^{most} westly injured his eyes very
 much in the latter way [In doing so
 he threw the reins of his bridle upon
 the neck of his horse, ^{He was encouraged} ~~and what is very~~
 to persevere ^{use} in the practice of reading on horseback,
 by finding that his horse ~~was~~ never
 stumbled when he ~~so~~ thus left him to
 guide himself.]

The irritants which act Chemically
 upon the eyes are smoke, the juice of Onions,
 the fumes of privies; - hence men who clean
 them are generally afflicted with this
 disease. The volatile matters emitted from
 putrefying Substances. This is ^{so} well
 known ~~to so common~~ a cause of



Ophthalmia in Egypt, that it is common to say there - the "Stink blinds".

a IInd Class of causes act indirectly in bringing on this disease. These are ~~the small pox, the Venereal disease, and scrophulous matter.~~ The Drunkenness, excess in venery ~~and~~ certain offensive matters in the stomach, and the dyspeptic.

There is a IIIrd Class of causes which act both directly and indirectly upon the ~~eyes~~ ^{membranes and} eyes. These are 1. the small pox & 2. Scrophula.

The Venereal disease. It has been supposed the Venereal Virus acts sympathetically or indirectly ^{only} upon the eyes, but there is reason to believe that the Virus is sometimes transferred by the Absorbents to the eyes, and where this is not the

the
cr
of
to
by
be
= to
= the
der
wa
Co
the
up
up
the
be

the case, it is probable it is now & then ^{is}
 communicated to the eyes by means ^{by}
 of the fingers, previously wetted ~~with~~ ^{is}
 touching the privates, or ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ infected
 by them, and that without the patients
 being conscious of it. 3 Repelled perspiration.
 This is a frequent cause of Op-
 -thalmia in Egypt. The night air &
 dens of that country induce it in this
 way. The skin when constricted by the
 cool air may act sympathetically ^{upon} ~~upon~~
 the eyes, but it is more probable, the
 repelled perspirable matter is thrown
 upon them. It is certainly thrown upon
 the ~~kid~~ bowels in ^{summer} ~~summer~~, & upon the
 lungs in ^{winter} ~~summer~~ in ^{the United States} ~~the United States~~.

✓ reflection of light from a white, &
^{sandy} ~~beach~~ soil, also from snow. I have
known two instances of its being
induced by the vivid blaze of a heavy
fire. —

6
The Ophthalmia from repelled perspiration
has been happily called by Asellius a
"Coryza of the eyes". — 4 great heat. This
acts both directly upon the eyes, and in-
directly upon them thro' the medium of
the whole body. It is induced in cooks &
in men who work by large fires in this
way. ~~It is when suddenly heated~~ The hot
winds of Arabia brought it on ~~and~~ the
celebrated traveller Mr Bruce. 5. The

6 Fevers with a great determination of
blood to the head, also the fevers ~~which~~
according to Dr Thakura which occur
in moist cold weather.

Of Miasmatic exhalations. These
are a very frequent cause of Ophthalmia.
Hence we read of its ^{preceding} accompanying, ~~preceding~~
and succeeding bilious fevers & the plague

4 in all Countries. I have seen it Alternate
 with ~~but only~~ the bilious fever, ^{and} ~~but the~~
~~Dysentery~~ I have heard of ^a case ^{under the} ~~involving~~
 Case of the late Dr. Clarkson in which
 it Alternated with Dysentery.

Its prevalence in Egypt more than
 in any other Country in the World, is to
 be ascribed chiefly to this cause, ~~and to~~
~~excessive perspiration~~ ~~and~~ great heat, &
~~the~~ reflected light, only predispose
 to it in that Country - and even the
 night air ~~which excites perspiration~~
 perhaps acts ^{as often} ~~as often~~ by exciting a local
 bilious fever ^{as} ~~by~~ throwing perspi-
 -rable matter upon the eyes. The ^{vapor} ~~factor~~
 of Onions upon ~~the~~ which the Egyptians
 feed so generally of the ^{factor} ~~factor~~ ~~of~~ ~~onions~~
 issues from putrid substances in the

✓ Infer this from a diet of Onions,
great heat, offensive odors, the night
air, and even the reflected light of the
sun from a white soil not produ-
cing ^{it as an epidemic} in countries not subject to bilious
and pestilential fevers. They all produce
solitary cases of it only, or at furthest,
seldom in more than two or three persons
in a family at a time.

Streets of the Cities in Egypt, No doubt
both predispose to, ~~it~~, and create many
solitary cases of the disease, but its
general prevalence in that country as
an epidemic must be ascribed to mi-
-annata only. ^{extent and degree of the} The ravages committed
in ~~that country~~ ^{Egypt} by this disease may easi-
-ly be conceived by the following facts.
Mr Volney tells us in his travels into Sy-
-ria that in a walk he once took thro'
~~the~~ ^a street in Cairo ~~in which~~ he met
one hundred persons, 20 were blind, 10
had but one eye, and in the remaining
seventy, the eyes were inflamed, puru-
-lent, or affected by some blennish. Again
of the British Army that served in
Egypt under Sir Ralph Abercrombie,
217 soldiers returned blind to this

no
p
to
i
w
co

no
th

a

for
him
the

it

the

dis

Egy
also

9
native Country. Whenever this disease
prevails generally, or in a Country subject
to bilious or intermitting fevers, I believe
it is always the effect of the same cause
which produces all the forms of arterial
and intestinal bilious fever.

There is one more cause ~~which~~ ^{of ophthalmia}
mentioned by some Authors, and
that is contagious. I mentioned formerly
a supposed fact in favor of this opinion
from Dr. Gregor, and ^{in some soldiers who} described it ~~as~~
having recently arrived from Egypt to induce
the disease of marching having ~~been~~
it by ~~the~~ throwing morbid excitement upon
the eyes after they had ^{been} predisposed to the
disease by the impure atmosphere of
Egypt. But Dr. Gregor ~~does not stand~~
alone in defending the contagiousness of

V They said the disease was general in
the vessel from which they were taken.

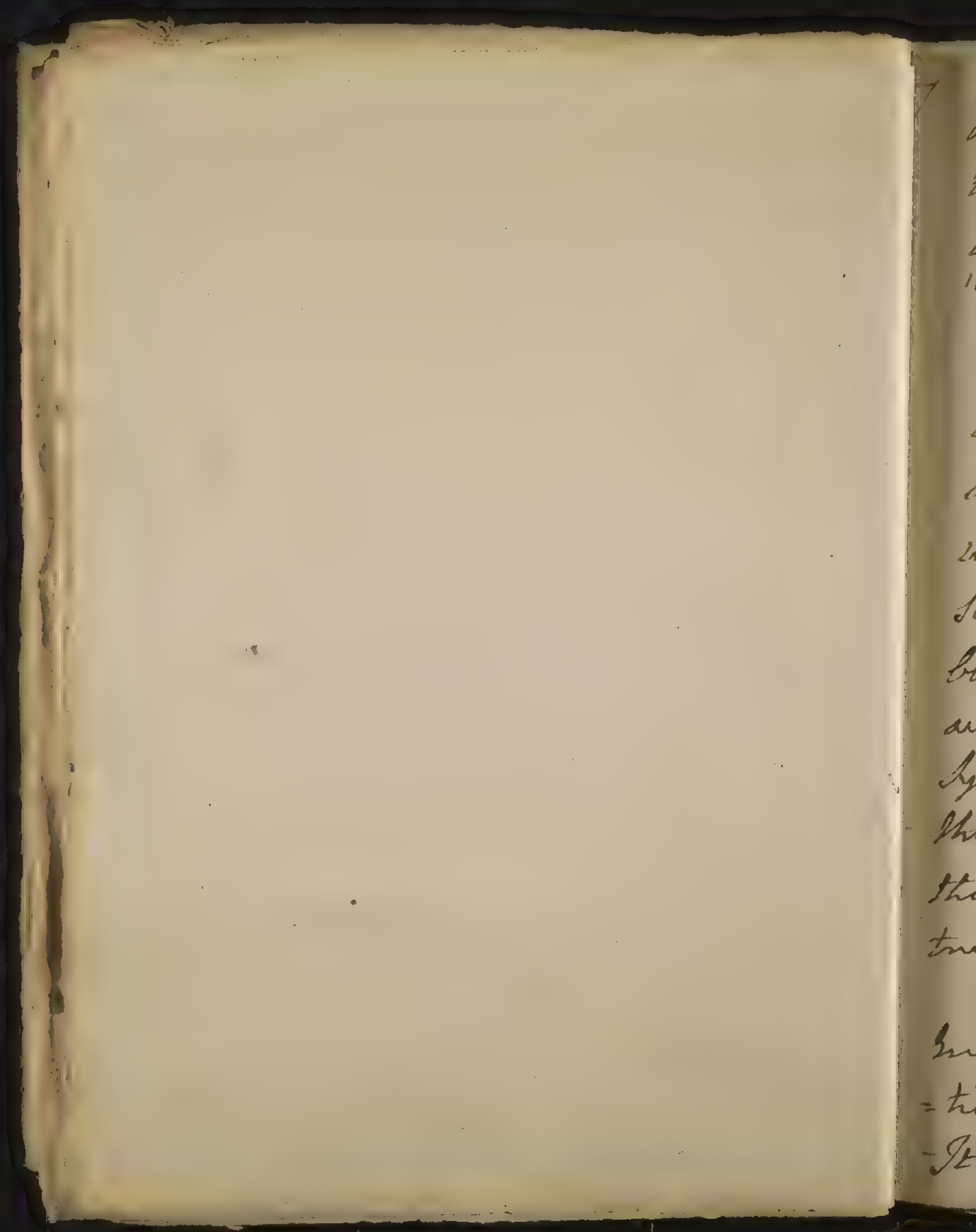
Ophthalmia. Professor Teirka of the University of Khosowitz & Bransching, Demons tan & Powers & Dewar have all ~~was~~ published facts intended to establish it. I shall mention the most striking of those facts from ^{an inaugural dissertation} ~~a publication~~ of Doctor ^{entitled} "De Sanitate tuerenda". He tells us that while serving on board the British ships of war ^{in the year 1782.} ~~etc~~ they picked up three sailors from another vessel who had inflamed eyes. In seven days, two and twenty of the Albernale's crew were affected with the same disease, and that to such a degree as to confine many of them to their hammocks. Upon separating the well, from the sick, the disease disappeared. ~~It is not believe without trading, that it was propagated by in this instance by contagion.~~ There are two ways in which this fact

✓ It is ^{no} more extraordinary that
Dysentery should be substituted for the
~~the eyes should be affected by~~
ship fever
than that Dysentery & Catarrh should
be so, both of which are common
in crowded and foul ships. ~~from~~ The
Opinion I have delivered ~~now~~ is

may be explained without calling in the
 action of contagion. It is possible the
~~the sea~~ disease in the three sailors origina-
 ted in ~~vicarious~~ ^{poison} or *Miasmata*, the
~~general prevalence of the~~ and that it was
 a vicarious disease, or the substitute for
 a bilious or ship fever. ~~This~~ ^{the ophthalmia} rendered
 probable from ^{its} being so general on
 board the ship ~~they~~ left ^{by the three sailors} and from its
~~general~~ ^{general} prevalence in ~~at~~ Egypt, all
 other countries being derived only from
^{one of the two} ~~one of the~~ sources of fever ^{that have been} mentioned. Admitting
 this to be the case, it is easy to conceive
 the disease was propagated by the throats
 of the three sailors to which we know from
 facts mentioned in our pathology ^{idio} *mias-*
^{or human} ~~matic~~ exhalations adhere with great per-
 sistency for weeks & months. If this

h.
to
a
-/o
ha
pr
ha
oft
200
to
a
on
all
m
T
w
-b
fo
K
L

explanation of the fact be not satisfactory,
~~but~~ I will propose another. Many diseases
 and animal motions are produced by sym-
 pathy. The Epilepsy I shall say hereafter
 has spread thro' a school, & part of a hospital
 from this cause. Squinting, [&] Stammering
 have spread in ~~the~~ the same way. Gaping,
 often passes as if by infection thro' a large
 roomfull of company. An inclination
 to make water is felt in a room ^{by}
 a whole school, by one boy only ~~going~~
 out for that purpose. But the eyes above-
 all other parts of the body discover the greatest
 predisposition to Sympathetic motions.
 They inspire communicate joy, terror
 melancholy, [&] distress ~~to a whole assembly~~
 &c. ^{even} They ^{do} more - they draw tears
 from every eye in that assembly. I
 know this last ~~and~~ ^{high} out of vulgar
 influence is ascribed to the power of words



acting upon the eyes this the medium of
the passions - but this is not true. ~~For~~
~~as Descartes~~ ~~Descartes~~ ~~has long ago refuted it.~~

"Si vis me flere, flendum est tibi primum."
says the Roman poet.

- Tears are absolutely necessary to produce
trans. ~~is~~ now let us suppose this kind of
sympathy to be a little increased, and
we shall have not only a supernatural
secretion of tears, but an effusion of
blood in the tears' vessels of the eye, &
accompanied with all the common
symptoms of Ophthalmia. Take either of
these theories gentlemen. Perhaps both of
them in different circumstances may be
true.

There has been a strange disposition in
European physicians to consider the propaga-
-tion of nearly all diseases contagious.
- It is a short & easy method of getting rid

V I have thus described the ordinary
form of Ophthalmia but there

of knotty questions, for it requires the ~~Apert~~
 Apert of the mind to but one, and that
 a single proposition, whereas the doctrine
 of diseases originating in domestic or personal
 causes, requires a ^{patient investigation & a laborious} combination of facts, and
 ideas, ~~and~~ which can rarely be submitted
 to ~~men~~ ^{physicians} whose ^{only} objects in ~~this profession~~ ^{are} is a
 short and easy ~~but~~ ^{not} road to business & fame.

The indications of cure in this disease are

I To remove all its remote causes.

II To reduce morbid excitement in the eyes.

III To give tone to the vessels of the eyes.

The ~~indication under the first but remote~~
 causes have been named. They should be removed
 with great care. If there is reason to believe it
 originates from miasmata, the patient should
 be removed from the part of the country in which
 they are generated.

II. To reduce the morbid excitement in the eyes
 the following remedies are proper

1 Darkness. This should be continued for days,

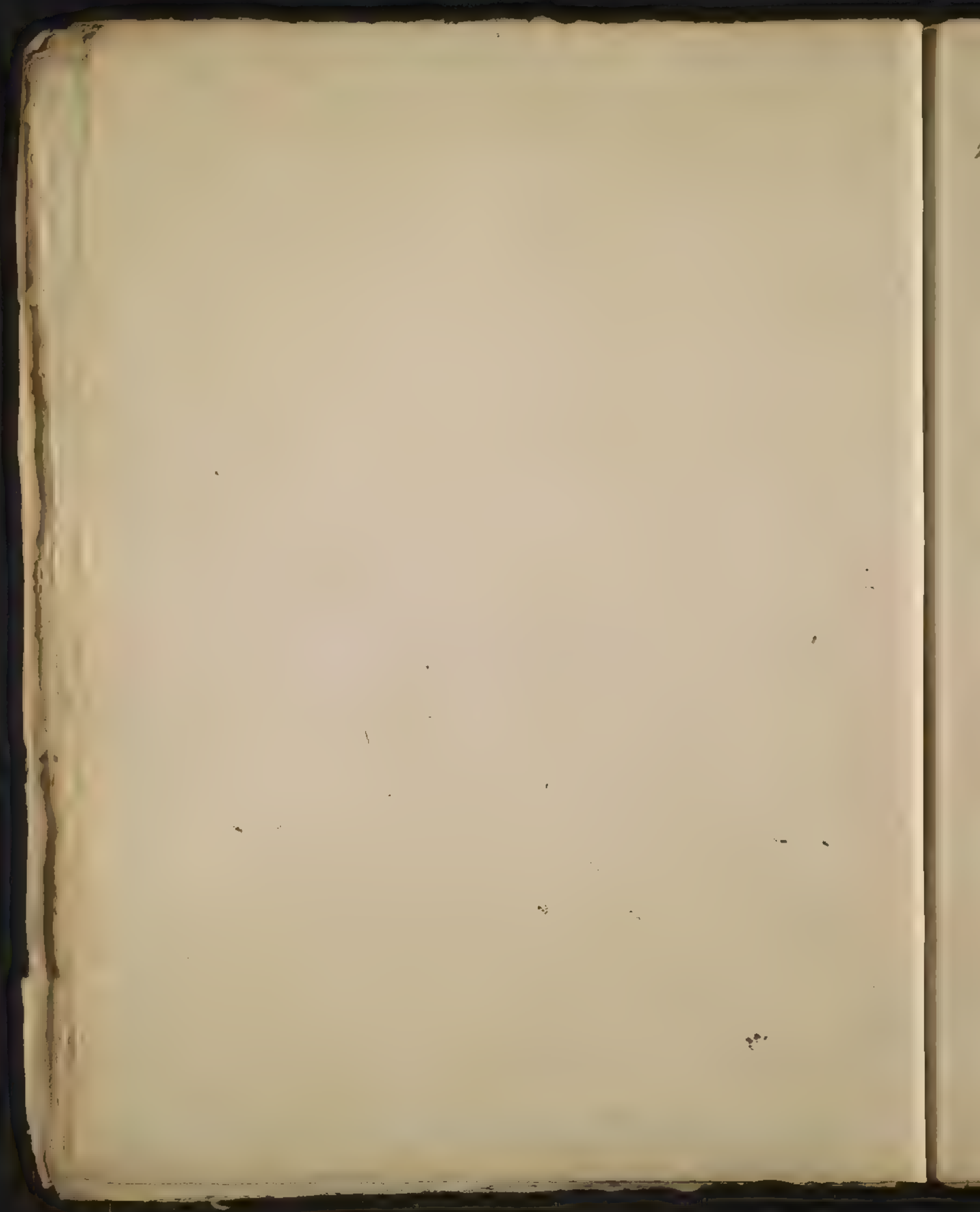
V of this copious mode of bleeding as proper
only in climates similar to ours. It has
been practiced in Egypt. Local bleeding alone
has been found useful in the ophthalmia
of that country. —

N 3 gentle but frequent purging, and
4 low very low diet.

lids and mouth if necessary. It should in some cases be so complete as to exclude even the light of an ordinary fire. I have once known a single ~~human~~ chunk of fire give pain to an inflamed eye in a room in which the windows & doors were completely closed.

2 Bleeding. This should be general from the arm, and local from the temples, ~~and~~ from the tarsi palpebrarum ^{and the eyes themselves,} by means of cups leeches and scarifications. In the use of this remedy recollect that the eyes are out of the great circulation, and that a greater quantity of blood ~~must~~ ^{must} be drawn in order to relieve them from the large viscera. The loss of 300 of blood at successive bleedings have been found necessary in some instances to cure this disease. I speak

^N 5 Frequent Abutions of the eyes with milk, or milk and water. However simple ^{this} remedy may appear to be, I think I have seen it do ~~much~~ great service in the most acute & inflamed state



of Ophthalmia. It acts by relaxing the vessels of the eyes, and by obviating the acrid secretion which takes place from the eyes whether of tears from the lachrymal glands, or of mucus from the eyelids. — The milk may be applied during the night ~~by means of~~ in the form of a poultice mixed with soft bread. No oil, nor grease of any kind should be mixed with it.

❧ Cold water. This remedy frequently gives great relief, but never until after depletion. I have seen ^{it} do harm in the first stage of this disease. Recollect what was said of cold water as an external remedy formerly in diseases of great morbid excitement, and of the necessity of reducing it previously to the application of the water. The famous travelling Dentist Ingraham in his rambles thro' this country about the year 1792 informed me that he found most benefit from the use of cold water to the eyes by placing his patients

CD quattro pagine

put in a bucket or tarp of cold water. ~~before~~
~~he applied the~~ At the time he applied ~~the~~ ^{it}
cold water to them, and that he applied ^{only}
only by means of cloths previously wetted
with the water. A chilliness was thus indu-
ced in the whole system which favoured the
sedative action of the water, ~~by~~ ^{and} preventing
the sudden reaction of the vessels of the eyes.
Blisters to the neck, behind the ears, to the
temples, and over the eyes lids, taking care in

the last case, to keep the lids well closed.
After the reduction of morbid excitement, &
inflammation in the eyes the remedies should
^{be} such as are calculated to give tone of their
bloodvessels. They should stimulate applications
of different kinds. I shall enumerate the most
common and popular of them, beginning with
the weakest. 1 Wine and water. 2 Brandy, or spirit
of any kind, and water. 3 Salt and water. 4
Infusions of oak galls or Peruvian Bark. 5

l
h
w
m
f
y
k
c
t
7
q
h
l

Lead water. 6 an eye water thus made. ~~with~~
Sulphate of Lime Zi ~~Acetate~~ Acetate of lead q^{r} X
Water Ziv . [This is a quack prescription, for it is
not chemical, but it has long been used with
great success in our city. It was introduced into
general use of Wm Allen Chief Justice of Pennsylv:
A worthy and benevolent man who made
good gave away many gallons of it among
his friends & to the poor every year] —
7 Ziv Zi Galls Zij Aqua Ziv — a little of this infusion
must be dropped into the eye.

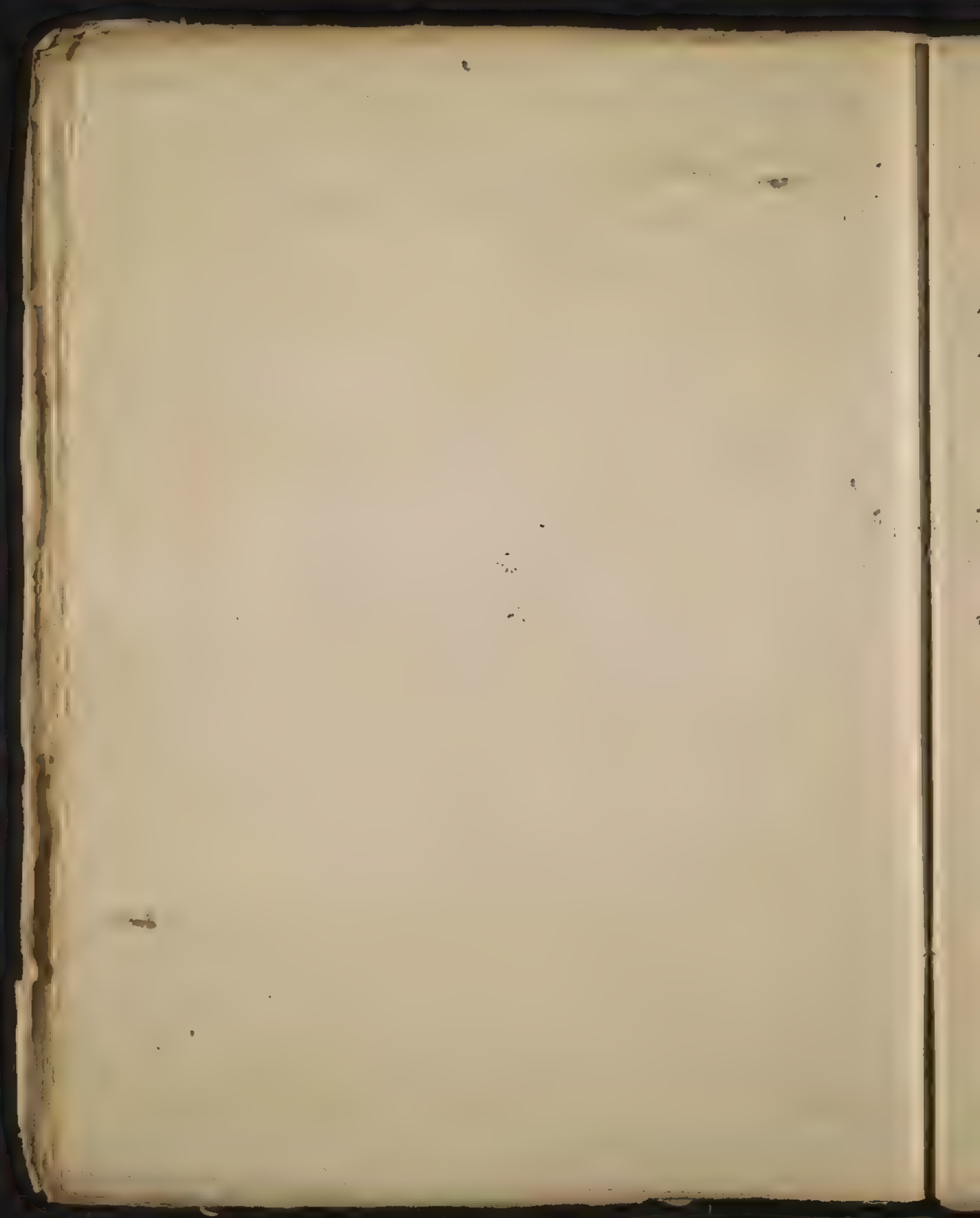
8 Dr White one of the physicians of the British
Army in Egypt commends the following Eye
Water in high terms. Cons: Sublimat: q^{r} ij
Spruit and water of each Zij applied by means
of a ^{soft} rag to the eyes. 9 Lij : Laud: Zi Wine &
Water of each Zij . This was the favorite
eye water of Dr Stark who travelled thro' this
Country as an Artist about the year
1780. 10 Alum Zij Water Ziv . 11 Dr



Guthrie mentions in a letter to Dr. Duncan
 a ~~case~~ ^{case} of Chronic Ophthalmia in an Ar-
 -ist in whom the disease was induced by
 overstraining his eyes by means of a mag-
 -nifier, being cured by the Vapor of Turpentine
 accidentally conveyed to his eyes by his wife.
 Dr. Scarpa recommends the following Colly-
 -rium in high terms. Sulphate of Copper
 and American Cole

12 I have known an infusion of Camphor
 ʒi and ~~300~~ ³⁰⁰ American Cole ʒss
 in ʒiv of Water do great service in the Debility
 State of Ophthalmia.

When an acid humor is poured upon
 the eye from the eye lids, or when the tears
 become acid, the following demulcent applica-
 -tions have been found useful. The ~~pre-~~
 -mixture of Sarsaparil mixed with Water 2. Guinea
 Seeds bruised and mixed with Water. 3. An
 Ointment made of the finely levigated powder



of Laminaria Stoma mixed with ~~fat~~
 the unsalted butter.

For Sores, or Swellings on the Tarsi
 palpebrarum, the Citron Ointment, & an
 Ointment composed of equal parts of tar
 and hog lard have ~~been~~ been found useful.

When this disease exists all the remedies
 that have been mentioned, recourse should be
 had to a Sabivation. This is indispensably
 necessary when there ^{is} any reason to believe
 it arises from a Venereal Cause.

When it arises from Miasmata, or
 is a disguised form of Autummal fever, the
 remedies should be the same as for that
 fever. Bach has often used it ^{in these} ~~cases~~
 cases. It does ~~not~~ most good when given in
 the intervals of the disease when such in-
 -tervals occur. ~~Opium has been useful in~~
~~Methemoglobinemia. I suspect it is only~~
~~the disease it~~

When we have reason to believe the disease originates from foul matter, or a diseased action in the stomach, ~~emetics~~ emetics should be given. They often give instant relief. Dr. Campbell commends Quinine in Chronic Ophthalmia. When it cures, I suspect it acts ^{principally} ~~as a tonic~~ ^{upon} ~~the~~ the stomach, and by imparting tone to it, gives tone to the vessels of the eyes. — Bitters should follow the use of emetics in Ophthalmia from foul matter, or a disease in the stomach.

An Ophthalmia is sometimes complicated with ^{Prophylaxia} ~~general debility~~. In this case Bark and ~~saliva~~ ~~harvest~~ is a most powerful remedy provided the pulse be at par or below it. If above par - the remedies should be bleeding, purges & low diet.



If the ophthalmia be accompanied with general debility, the remedies should be BARK preparations of Iron, ~~and~~ cordial diet & exercise.

When it is the effect of a translation of another disease, that disease should be restored. For example - if it arise from dysentery, purges should be given - if from the retrocession of cutaneous discharges, or eruptions, they should be brought back by the remedies proper for that purpose. If from gonorrhoea, by bougies, or irritating injections, or applications to the perineum. I have lately heard of a chronic Ophthalmia being cured by an attack of influenza fever. Perhaps an artificial fever might be excited with the same

2

1/2

Salutary effect. It owes its peculiar ob-
-stinacy in many cases to its being
an insulated disease. By exciting an
artificial fever, we may divide its force,
and by diffusing it thro'out the whole
sanguiferous system, it is ^{probably} ~~possible~~ we
may cure it. —

I need hardly add of how much
consequence it is to attend early, and
closely to an inflam'd disease in the
eyes. When neglected, or not treated
properly, it often ends in blindness from
a film, Amaurosis, & Cataract, and
sometimes in suppuration, or such
Ulcers in its coats, as end in Cancer
and death. —

There is disease in the eye which has
 been improperly called ophthalmia ^{ch.} ~~W.~~
 comes on suddenly most commonly
 in the night, and in some persons
 after riding in the wind. ^{The whole eye is inflamed with red} It is attended
~~blood.~~ ^{It is said to be bloodshot or bloodshed.}
 with no pain, and is not increased
 by light, or reading. — I have
 called it an erythema of the eye.
 It seldom requires U or purging,
 and yields in a few days to any
 gently stimulating eye water.

